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AP Literature & Composition

Composition: Reflection

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Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been?

The short story, *“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been,”* was one of my favorite short story that we have read so far from Perrine’s Literature. For this essay, I was to write an essay in which I argued for the literary quality of *“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been.”* The reason that I chose to discuss the literary elements present in this short story was that as I was reading this story, the literary elements seemed to be popping at me all over the place. Although I easily saw the literary elements within this short story, there were some areas in my paper where I could improve my writing. First off, my organization could use some rearranging. I ordered my paper into literary element sections as they appeared in Perrine’s Literature. Next time, I would organize the elements in order of importance. To cut down in length, I focused on plot and structure, characterization, and symbols and allegories. In my opinion, these three literary elements were the most essential for the development of the theme. Given more time and more space, this essay could be expanded to include all elements of literary fiction, for *“Where Are You Going, Where Have You Been”* has most of the elements, if not all. I could also improve upon my introduction. Introducing the paper with a definition from the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary is a great start, but I need to keep this broadness going until I get closer to the main idea of the paper and its thesis statement. I learned something about myself that I did not want to accept, and that is that I have the ability to think deeply into a piece of fiction, deeper than just the words on the paper. Overall, I think this was a great essay, and the organization made sense. With some minor adjustments and improvements, this essay would be golden.